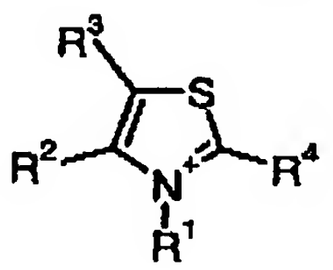
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-3, 5 and 11 and add new Claims 14-18:

14. (New) A compound of the formula (I)

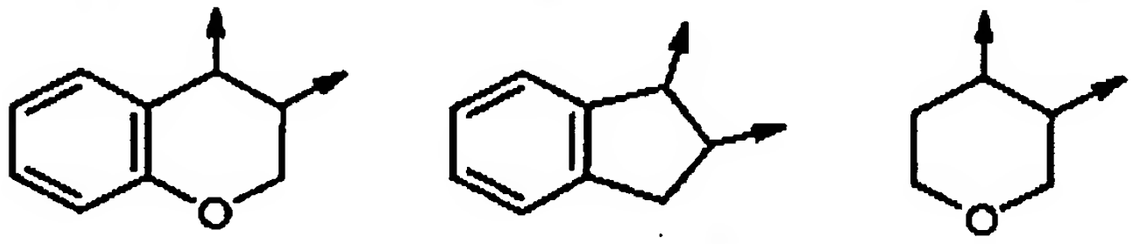


X^- (I),

in which

R^1 represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro, C_1-C_4-alkyl, or C_1-C_4-alkoxy,

R^2 and R^3 together represent $-(CH_2)_n-$ that is optionally substituted by halogen, NO_2, carboxyl, carbonyl, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-halogenoalkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy, or C_1-C_4-halogenoalkoxy or the optionally halogen-, NO_2-, C_1-C_4-alkyl-, C_1-C_4-halogenoalkyl-, C_1-C_4-alkoxy-, or C_1-C_4-halogenoalkoxy-substituted groups having the formulas



where the arrows mark the points of linkage to the thiazole ring, and

n represents 3, 4 or 5,

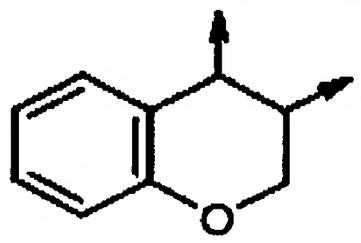
R^4 represents bromine or chlorine, and

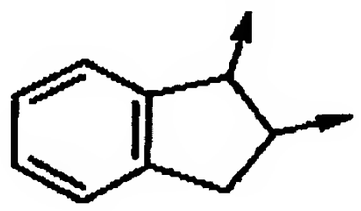
X^- represents chloride, bromide, iodide, hydrogen sulfate, ½ equivalent of sulfate, sulfate, hexachloroantimonate, methanesulfonate, trifluoromethanesulfonate, p-toluenesulfonate, tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, or hexafluorophosphate.

15. (New) A compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 14, wherein

R^1 represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine, methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, or n- or i-propoxy,

R^2 and R^3 together represent $-(CH_2)_n-$ substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine, methyl, ethyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, or carbonyl or the groups having the formulas





, and

n represents 3 or 4,

R^4 represents bromine, and

X^- represents bromide, ½ equivalent of sulfate, sulfate, $SbCl_6^-$, mesylate, triflate, tosylate, tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, or hexafluorophosphate.

16. (New) A compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 14, wherein

R^1 represents methyl, ethyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine,

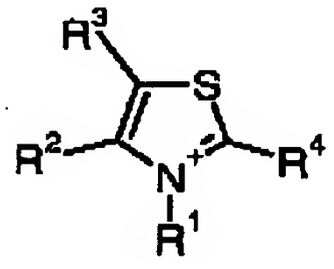
R^2 and R^3 together represent $-(CH_2)_n-$ that is optionally substituted by fluorine and/or chlorine, methyl, ethyl, or carbonyl, and

X^- represents bromide, ½ equivalent of sulfate, sulfate, or tetrafluoroborate.

17. (New) A compound of the formula (I) according to Claim 14, wherein

R^4 represents bromine.

18. (New) A compound of the formula (I-2)

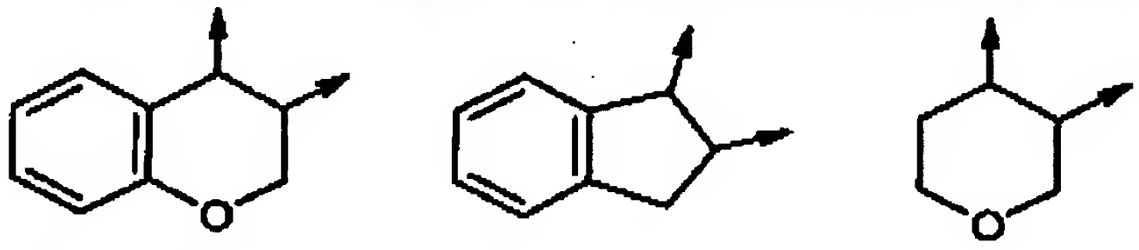


X^{n-} (I-2),

in which

R^1 represents methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, hydroxyl, methylsulfonyl, ethylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonyl, p-methylphenylsulfonyl, or benzyl that is optionally substituted by halogen, nitro, C_1-C_4-alkyl, or C_1-C_4-alkoxy,

R^2 and R^3 together represent $-(CH_2)_n-$ that is optionally substituted by halogen, NO_2, carboxyl, carbonyl, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-halogenoalkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy, or C_1-C_4-halogenoalkoxy or the optionally halogen-, NO_2-, C_1-C_4-alkyl-, C_1-C_4-halogenoalkyl-, C_1-C_4-alkoxy-, or C_1-C_4-halogenoalkoxy-substituted groups having the formulas



where the arrows mark the points of linkage to the thiazole ring, and

n represents 3, 4 or 5,

R^4 represents bromine or chlorine, and

X^{n-} represents tetrafluoroborate, tetraphenylborate, or hexafluorophosphate.